



Milwaukee County

Board Chairman Lee Holloway

Supervisor James White

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Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager
414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE FOR TRANSIT WOULD MEAN PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Top priority is removing existing County transit services from the property tax rolls

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway and Transportation, Public Works and Transit Committee Chairman James White are supporting a sales tax increase as a dedicated source of funding for public transit in Milwaukee County.

“Taking transit off the property tax rolls means reducing the burden on property taxpayers permanently,” Chairman Holloway said. “The majority of County Board members feel this is the most appropriate method of funding transit in Milwaukee County.”

A resolution passed by the County Board last year affirms Milwaukee County’s biggest transit priority is identifying a non-property tax dedicated funding alternative for the ongoing operation of Milwaukee County Transit System’s rubber tire bus service. A proposal from the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Transit Authority would let counties raise the sales tax by up to 0.45% for local transit systems. Approximately one-third of the sales tax collections in Milwaukee County are paid by visitors.

“This is really more of a redirection from the property tax rolls to sales tax collections,” Supervisor White said. “The new session of the legislature brings more balance to the political process, and there could be an opportunity to secure dedicated funding for transit in Milwaukee County.”

“We are urging County Public Works Director George Torres to support funding initiatives to help bring MCTS off the property tax rolls in Milwaukee County,” Chairman Holloway said. “We need to make sure Milwaukee County residents can use transit to get to their jobs. And we can do this while stabilizing the property tax base.”